

§ 700.611 Application deadline.

The deadline for receipt of applications for benefits under this subpart shall be 120 days following publication of these final rules.

Subpart Q—New Lands Grazing

SOURCE: 56 FR 13397, Apr. 2, 1991, unless otherwise noted.

§ 700.701 Definitions.

(a) *Act* means Pub. L. 93-531 (88 Stat. 1712, 25 U.S.C. 640 *et. seq.*) as amended by Pub. L. 96-305 and Pub. L. 100-666.

(b) *New Lands* means the land acquired for the use of relocatees under the authority of Pub. L. 96-305, 25 U.S.C. 640d-10. These lands include the 215,000 acres of lands acquired by the Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation Commission and added to the Navajo Reservation and 150,000 acres of private lands previously owned by the Navajo Nation in fee and taken in trust by the United States pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 640d-10.

(c) *Commissioner* means the Commissioner of The Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation in Flagstaff, Arizona. Reference to approval or other action by the Commissioner will also include approval or other action by another Federal officer under delegated authority from the Commissioner.

(d) *Tribe* means the Navajo Nation.

(e) *Range unit* means a tract of range land designated as a management unit for administration of grazing.

(f) *Range Management Plan* means a land use plan for a specific range unit that will provide for a sustained forage production consistent with soil, watershed, wildlife, and other values.

(g) *Stocking rate* means the authorized stocking rate by range unit as determined by the Commissioner. The stocking rate shall be based on forage production, range utilization, land management applications being applied, and range improvements in place to achieve uniformity of grazing under sustained yield management principles.

(h) *Grazing permit* means a revocable privilege granted in writing limited to entering on and utilizing forage by domestic livestock on a specified tract of

land. The term, as used herein, shall include written authorization issued to enable the crossing or trailing of domestic livestock across specified tracts or range.

(i) *Animal unit* (AU) means one adult cow with unweaned calf by her side or equivalent thereof based on comparative forage consumption. Accepted conversion factors are: Sheep and Goats—one ewe, doe, buck, or ram equals 0.25 AU. Horses and Mules—one horse, mule, donkey or burro equals 1.25 AU.

(j) *Sheep unit* means one ewe with lamb at side or a doe goat with kid.

(k) *SUYL* means one sheep unit grazed yearlong.

(l) *HPL* means the area partitioned to the Hopi Tribe pursuant to Pub. L. 93-531 known as the Hopi Partitioned Land.

§ 700.703 Authority.

It is within the authority of the Commissioner on Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation to administer the New Lands added to the Navajo Reservation pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 6-10(d)-10.

§ 700.705 Objectives.

It is the purpose of the regulations in this part to aid the Navajo Indians in achievement of the following objectives:

(a) The preservation of the forage, the land, and the water resources on the New Lands.

(b) The resettlement of Navajo Indians physically residing on the HPL to the New Lands.

§ 700.707 Regulations; scope.

The grazing regulations in this part apply to the New Lands within the boundaries of the Navajo Reservation held in trust by the United States for the Navajo Tribe which lands were added to the Navajo Reservation pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 640(d)-10; 25 CFR parts 166 and 167 are not applicable to the New Lands.

§ 700.709 Grazing privileges.

(a) A list of permittees eligible to receive grazing permits is kept at the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation in Flagstaff, Arizona. This list is composed of individuals eligible for New Lands grazing permits who:

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(1) Have a current HPL grazing permit, or have had an HPL permit issued since 1980, or are current HPL residents and can show documentation of a past grazing permit issued in their name for grazing on an area now on the HPL, and

(2) Who have not received relocation benefits under Pub. L. 93-531, and who relocate from the HPL on to a New Lands range unit. Individuals on this list will receive a commitment that a permit will be issued to them.

(b) If such persons cannot relocate immediately because their chosen relocation site is not ready for occupancy, the Office will issue a commitment to them that a grazing permit will be granted upon their relocation.

(c) If such persons are notified by the Office that their relocation site is ready for occupancy and they fail or refuse to make timely arrangements to relocate when requested by the Office to do so, the commitment may be withdrawn.

(d) Persons on this list must file an application for a New Lands Grazing Permit. The Commissioner will determine when the application period will close and will publish notice of that date. After the close of the period for application, the Commissioner, in his sole discretion, may issue permits to individuals if it is determined that to do so will facilitate relocation.

(e) Initial determinations on eligibility for grazing permits will be made by the Range Supervisor.

[56 FR 13397, Apr. 2, 1991, as amended at 57 FR 24363, June 9, 1992]

§ 700.711 Grazing permits.

(a) All livestock grazed on the New Lands must be covered by a grazing permit authorized and issued by the Commissioner on Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation.

(b) Permit holders must:

(1) Be enrolled Navajo Tribal members,

(2) Be over 18 years of age,

(3) Maintain a permanent residency on the New Lands Range Unit of permit issue, and

(4) Own livestock which graze on the range unit of permit issue.

(c) Permits will be issued for a base of 80 SUYL (20 AU) and may not be di-

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vided or transferred for less than 80 SUYL.

(d)(1) Temporary seasonal grazing permits for periods not to exceed one year may be issued to permittees:

(i) To use extra forage made available under rotation grazing management as regulated by a range unit management plan,

(ii) To use forage created by unusually favorable climatic conditions,

(iii) To allow use of range while term permits are held in suspension under § 700.715(d).

(2) These temporary permits may be reissued prior to termination provided:

(i) The permittee is managing grazing in compliance with grazing regulations,

(ii) Livestock grazing is in compliance with the cooperative range unit range management plan, and

(iii) Forage is available on the range to sustain the livestock authorized under the temporary permit.

§ 700.713 Tenure of grazing permits.

(a) All active regular grazing permits shall be for five years and shall be automatically reissued for another five-year period provided the permittee is not in violation of § 700.711 or 700.715 or 700.719 or 700.723 or 700.725 of the regulations. Permits will initially be issued with an ending date of October 31 of the fifth year following the date of initial issuance.

(b) Amendments to these regulations extending or limiting the tenure of grazing permits are applicable and become a condition of all previously granted permits.

§ 700.715 Assignment, modification, and cancellation of grazing permits.

(a) Grazing permits may be assigned or transferred with the written consent of the contracting parties. The Commissioner will issue a new permit provided the transferee meets qualifications under § 700.711(b).

(b) Temporary permits issued under § 700.711(d) are directly tied to the term permit and may be transferred with the term permit if the transferee signs the range unit management plan which provides the management for continuation of the temporary grazing permit.